

IN THE CLAIMS

The claims are presently as follows:

1. (Previously amended) A multipurpose cage level barrier rodent cage for housing multiple species of rodents, including a plurality of mice or rats in a ventilated rack and cage system, the cage comprising a cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls, a floor and an open top end, said floor having a length l and a width w wherein

80 square inches $\leq l \times w \leq 110$ square inches.

2. (Original) The multipurpose rat cage of claim 1, wherein $l \times w$ is substantially 80 square inches.

3. (Previously amended) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising a double sided rack, the rack having a depth;

at least one cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls, a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially a 18 inches.

Claim 6 (Currently cancelled)

Claim 7 (Previously cancelled)

8. (Previously added) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising:

a double sided rack, the rack having a depth; and

a cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls, a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially a 18 inches;

wherein said cage bottom has a length l and a width w , and wherein $80 \text{ square inches} \leq l \times w \leq 110 \text{ square inches}$.

9. (Previously added) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising:

a double sided rack, the rack having a depth; and

a cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls, a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially a 18 inches;

wherein said rack has a depth and said cage rests within said rack so that said length of said cage at least partially overlaps said depth of said rack and a portion of said cage extends beyond said rack, the portion having a length and the sum of the length of the portion and the depth of said rack is less than or equal to substantially 36 inches.